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Message Text

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PAGE 01 LISBON 05031 291903Z

11
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 CCO-00 CIAE-00 OTPE-00 EB-07

FCC-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 OC-05 USIA-06 COME-00 BIB-01

LAB-04 SIL-01 SS-15 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 PER-01 SSO-00

/074 W
---------- 015557
R 291722Z AUG 75
FM AMEMBASSY LISBON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4021
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMCONSUL LUANDA

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BONN FOR RCO

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ELAB, ETEL, PO
SUBJ: MARCONI TELECOMMUNICATION WORKERS THREATEN STRIKE

1. MARCONI TELECOMMUNICATION WORKERS THREATEN TO BEGIN A PROGRESSIVE WORK STOPPAGE COMMENCING SEPTEMBER 1 IF THEIR DEMANDS FOR PAY INCREASES AND OTHER BENEFITS ARE NOT MET. STRIKE IS RESULT OF LONG STANDING DISPUTE AND APPARENTLY HAS NO POLITICAL MOTIVATION.

2. STRIKE SCHEDULED TO OCCUR IN PROGRESSIVE STAGES. A WORK SLOWDOWN IS TO COMMENCE SEPT 1 AT 3:00 P.M. ON SEPTEMBER 2 A STOPPAGE IS SCHEDULED FROM 10 TO 11:00 A.M. AND FROM 4 TO 5:00 P.M. IF THE WORKERS' DEMANDS ARE NOT MET, THE PERIODS OF WORK STOPPAGE ARE TO BE EXTENDED UNTIL TOTAL SHUTDOWN IS ACHIEVED ON SEPT 6.

3. ALL TELECOMMUNICATIONS CIRCUITS TO ANGOLA ARE HANDLED BY MARCONI. INTER-EUROPEAN TELECOMMUNICATIONS CIRCUITS ARE HANDLED
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PAGE 02 LISBON 05031 291903Z

BY THE PORTUGUESE POSTAL, TELEPHONE, AND TELEGRAPH (CTT) SERVICE

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006

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AND SHOULD NOT BE AFFECTED.

4. EMBASSY CONTACTED MARCONI TO DETERMINE EXTENT TO WHICH STRIKE MIGHT INTERFERE WITH LEASED COMMUNICATIONS CIRCUITS, INCLUDING LEASED COMMUNICATIONS CIRCUIT TO LUANDA. MARCONI ENGINEER STATED LEASED CIRCUITS COULD BE EXPECTED TO CONTINUE TO OPERATE AS LONG AS NO BREAKDOWN OCCURS WHICH REQUIRES SERVICING. MAIN IMPACT ON US GOVERNMENT COMMUNICATIONS MIGHT BE INABILITY TO SEND COMMERCIAL REPEAT COMMERICAL MESSAGES TO LUANDA TO ALERT CONSULATE AFTER CLOSE OF BUSINESS THAT NIACT MESSAGE HAD BEEN SENT OVER LEASED CIRCUIT, AND THE LACKOF COMMERCIAL TELEPHONE SERVICE DIRECT TO THE UNITED STATES.

5. PROPOSED STRIKE OF MARCONI TELECOMMUNICATIONS WORKERS MAY LIMIT INTERNATIONAL NEWS AGENCY REPORTING FROM PORTUGAL. IT UNDERLINES WISDOM OF DEPARTMENT'S TIMELY DECISION TO PROVIDE THREE TDY COMMUNICATORS TO POSTS IN PORTUGAL TO ASSURE THAT U.S. GOVERNMENT IS CONTINUALLY ABLE TO KEEP ABREAST OF UNSETTLED POLITICAL SITUATION.
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